

SEP -8 1921

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ARTHUR S. KANE
Presents

CHARLES RAY
in

"A MIDNIGHT BELL"

by Charles Hoyt

Adapted by Richard Andres

Directed by Charles Ray

Who acknowledges the able assistance of

George Rizard, Chief Camera.
Harry Decker, Editor

Al Ray

Ellsworth Rumer, Second Camera

Robert Bennett, Technical Director

Edward Withers, Art Titles

Produced by the Charles Ray Productions, Inc.
A First National (T.M.) Attraction.

CAST

Martin Tripp	CHARLES RAY
Stephen Labaree	Donald MacDonald
Abner Grey	Van Dyke Brooke
Annie Grey	Doris Pawn
Mac	Clyde McCoy
Spike	Jess Herring
"Bull" Barton	S. J. Bingham
"Slick" Sweeney	Burt Offord

SYNOPSIS

Martin Tripp, a young salesman, upon losing his job, finds himself stranded in a hick town. Strolling into the store of old Abner Grey, he makes such an impromptu sale of merchandise, that Mr. Grey hires him on the spot. Arrangements are made that Martin shall board with Mr. Grey, whose house is resided over by his young and pretty daughter, Annie. At dinner, Martin meets the other member of the household, Mr. Labaree, proprietor of the pool hall.

The haunted church of the town is the topic of conversation during dinner. Martin is astonished to discover the seriousness with which the spooks are discussed. Mr. Labaree, is particularly vehement in his warnings to keep away from the church, but Martin is determined to explore the church and expose the ghosts, accordingly, he spends the night in the haunted church.

Due to Martin's up-to-date methods in the store, Mr. Grey banks more money than ever before. At various times, as Annie goes to the bank, she is conscious of being followed, and once or twice she recognized the face of one of the town loafers, peering at her through the bank window.

Once more, Martin is to spend the night in the haunted church. His previous experiences lead him to arm himself before entering the church. Following the dim light flickering in the basement, he finds a tunnel which leads directly to the bank. Grasping his gun, he pushes the door open by inches. Suddenly the score of a woman arrests him. Suspecting foul play and harm to Martin, Annie has come to the church in spite of her fear, and is hiding at the head of the tunnel as Martin slowly opens the door. When they recognize each other in the semi-darkness, she implores him to flee, but Martin has other plans. He means to round up the gang of crooks headed by Labaree, masquerading as ghosts and using the church as a rendezvous for their nefarious plans.

A wild skirmish takes place in the tunnel as the crooks enter. Shots are fired. Martin is bound hand and foot in the belfry of the church. Annie is also bound and dragged through the tunnel her freedom promised upon giving the combination of the safe. This she gives falsely. The thieves rush to the bank and feverishly work on the safe. Meanwhile, Martin with almost superhuman effort has managed to twist his hand so that the bellrope falls within his grasp, and by tilting his chair in which he is bound, he succeeds in ringing the bell. Abner Grey enters the church and released Martin, who blockades the tunnel, thus trapping the crooks who have rushed there for safety. As the sheriff appears, Martin informs him that he is glad to present him with five crooked spooks, beautifully caught in the underground tunnel running from the church to the bank.

Martin becomes both partner and son-in-law to Mr. Grey. The old inhabitants turn once more with reverence to their beloved church. Since the banishment of the spooks, it again fulfills its mission to the community.

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Dated at Washington D C.

Sept 8, 1921

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W. S. McCune
A. O. K. - F. G. P.

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